It is difficult to precisely estimate at this stage, the quantum of foreign exchange likely to the earned/augmented as a result of these measures.

Investment by non-resident indians

*30. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total investment made by the Non-Resident Indians in the country from January, 1985 till June, 1988;

(b) what is the number of non-resident Indians who have made this investment during this period; and

(c) what are the names of countries to which these Non-Resident Indians belong?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The total investment by NRIs in the country, apart from deposits in Banks, from January 1985 to March 1988 was Rs. 43,991.23 lakhs on repatriation basis and Rs. 19,004.69 lakhs on non-repatriation basis.

(b) and (c) There are several Schemes for Investments by Non-Resident Indians in this country. Approval for these Schemes are decentralised. The investors for these Schemes are from a very large number of countries and their numbers would also be very large. Compilation of data would be a complex and time-consuming process.

Regulation of prices of polyester and Nylon filament yarn

*31. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2366 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th August, 1988 regarding regulation of prices of polyester and nylon filament yarn and state:

(a) how the prices of polyester yarn and other products have been moving since 1st March, 1988, monthwise: after the concessions were announced in the Budget;

(b) whether the Monitoring Committee held any discussion with the synthetic yarn manufacturers and organisations of end users and if so, with what results; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to withdraw the duty concessions with immediate effect and penalise the synthetic yarn manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Price trends (weighted average) of Polyester Staple Fibre, Acrylic Staple Fibre Nylon Filament Yarn, Polyester Filament Yarn, Polyster Viscose Blended Yarn & Polyester Cotton blended yarn since March, 1988 to September, 1988 are given below:—

S. No.	Item	March '88	April '88	May '88	June '88	July '88	August '88	Sept. '88
1.	Polyester Staple Fibre (1 2D)	61.16	62.25	62.30	61.41	71.00	71.10	72 11
2.	Acrylic Staple Fibre . .	66.07	66. 07	66 07	68 00	68.00	68 00	68.00
3.	Nylon Filament Yarn . .	156.93	154 30	161.95	159 24	163.95	169 21	169 21
4.	Polyester Filament Yarn .	137 50	138.00	138.00	144 50	149.59	149 50	149 50
5.	Polyester Viscose blended Yarn. (48 + 52) . .	87.06	83 97	79.37	80.37	80.37	82.23	81.70
6.	Polyester Cotton Blended Yarn. (65 + 35)	Not Available	84.83	84.33	77.83	85 00	82 83	87.17

(b) Representatives from the Association of Synthetic Fibre Industry, Association of Polyester Staple Fibre Manufacturers, Association of Manmade Fibre Industry, All India Crimpers Association, Indian Cotton Mills Federation, Federation of the Art Silk Weaving Industry, Powerloom Industries Association, Clothing Manufacturers Association, Retailers Federation Bombay, and Bombay Piece Goods Merchants Mahajan have been included as members of the Monitoring Committee which regularly discusses the issue. It appears that the prices of these products have not come down after the announcement of duty relief during the last Budget Primarily due to increase in the cost of raw materials used for manufacture of these items.

(c) No, Sir.

Import duty on newsprint

*32. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the import duty on newsprint to 40 per cent; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Imposition of ban on the book titled 'Satanic Verses'

*33. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for imposing a ban on Salman Rushdie's book titled "Satanic Verses";

(b) what objectionable material has been found in the book and what are the guidelines for identifying a material as "objectionable";

(c) what has been the policy of the Central Government in this regard and whether the policy has always been consistent and equally applied in the past pertaining to all cases of religious sentiments of all communities and sections of Indian society; and

(d) whether Government propose to withdraw the order banning the book "Satanic Verses"?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) Section 11 of the Customs Act, 1962 empowers prohibition of import and circulation of any publication *inter alia* for the purpose of maintenance of public order, standard of decency, morality, maintenance of security of India and for any other purpose condusive to the interest of general public, prevention of contravention of any law for the time being in the force and friendly relations with foreign countries etc. These prohibitions imposed under Customs Act are uniformly applicable to all publications irrespective of the country of their origin. As the contents of the book titled "Satanic Verses" by Salman Rushdie were likely to be detrimental to the maintenance of public order, Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue issued instructions banning the import of this under Notification No. 77-Customs, dated 22nd September, 1956.

(d) No, Sir.